IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Tove Ringerike et al.

Serial No. : 10/577,268

Filed : as §371 national stage of PCT International

Application No. PCT/PL2004/000075

FOR : TOOLS AND METHODS USEFUL IN CHARACTERISING THE

IMMUNOTOXIC ACTIVITY OF XENOBIOTIC SUBSTANCES

Conf. No. : 2090

30 Rockefeller Plaza New York, New York 10112

February 6, 2012

VIA EFS-WEB

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO JANUARY 4, 2012 OFFICE ACTION

This is a response to a January 4, 2012 Office Action issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified application. A Response to the January 4, 2012 Office Action is due February 4, 2012. However, under 37 C.F.R. \$1.7(a), when the last day for taking any action in the United States Patent and Trademark Office falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal Holiday, the action may be taken on the next succeeding business day. Since February 4, 2012 was a Saturday, a response filed on the next succeeding business day, i.e. Monday, February 6, 2012, is to be considered timely. Accordingly, this Response is being timely filed.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.